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E. N. Lappo

*lecturer of the Department of social and humanitarian disciplines
of the Mogilev Institute of the Ministry of internal affairs (Belarus)*

ADVANTAGES OF ELECTRONIC TEXTBOOKS IN STUDYING FOREIGN LANGUAGES

The article is devoted to the relevant issue of using electronic textbooks in the process of teaching foreign languages. Attention is paid to their possibilities and advantages while using in the learning process. The main advantages of electronic textbooks include the individualization of the educational process, the use of multimedia technologies and the formation of students' self-education competencies.

Today the learning process is directly connected with the active use of modern technologies. These include not only modern teaching forms and methods, but also the use of electronic textbooks.

An electronic textbook is a textbook in digital form that contains structured and systematic material used by students in the learning process to master new knowledge and skills; it is characterized by logical presentation, high technical equipment and a high-level design.

Technology is a great part of language learning at all levels. So, digital textbooks become increasingly common for the teaching of foreign languages across educational contexts as well as in content oriented courses.

It is worth noting that the electronic textbook is not an electronic version of a book, the functions of which are limited by the possibility of switching from contents to a chapter by hyperlink. The course of the classes should be adapted to achieve the effect of such digital resource, and the electronic textbook itself should support the learning modes for which it is used [1].

The use of new technologies in the learning process has become the perfect complement to mastering of a language, and the lessons accompanied by technological support are the most effective and attractive to students who want to be successful in their learning.

Many educational institutions develop their own educational electronic textbooks and apply them into the educational process.

When using electronic textbooks one only needs to have one device that will house all of the materials instead of carrying them in the bag. Those students that use e-books do so because e-books are available around the clock, and they are «searchable», meaning students can easily search the text for key words or phrases.

Moreover, today one have access to the digital libraries from any electronic device (smartphone, tablet or laptop). These digital libraries do not only offer knowledge to their academic clients but create a digital platform which is an open and collaborative learning space where students can successfully study [2, p. 155].

Today teenagers are active participants of the digital information society, and it means that the forms of communication which they are now engaged in have also changed greatly to previous generations.

The aim of digital textbooks is to simplify perception, understanding and memorizing of the material using visual, auditory and emotional memory.

Thus, the indisputable advantages of electronic textbooks that provide the optimization of the foreign language teaching are:

1) high-level visibility provided by the use of graphics, animation, sound accompaniment, hyperlinks, videos, etc., which allows to recreate a high-quality artificial language environment;

2) possibility to represent in dynamics processes, objects that are inaccessible to direct observation or require unique materials or expensive equipment for their study;

3) possibility of interactive interaction between a student and a textbook element, which solves the problem of feedback;

4) creating conditions for self-study of educational material, which allows the student to choose the place and time convenient for him or her to work with computer learning tools, as well as the pace of the learning process;

5) possibility of redistribution of teachers' workload from routine activities to creative ones;

6) increasing the speed of providing the educational process with teaching and methodical means and mobility of the education system when changing the structure and content of education;

7) possibility to interest the student in the subject of study, because everything connected with the computer and technologies attract the modern youth and stimulate their work,

8) the possibility of simple knowledge control through computer testing [3].

An obvious advantage of the e-learning tool is the possibility to use multimedia that presents information more vividly and brightly, which is an excellent motivation for students. Such a «live» presentation of information with the help of modern technologies (sound accompaniment, watching videos) provides the language immersion, gives the opportunity to hear authentic speech, thereby developing reading and speaking skills.

Many studies have found that while working with multimedia-based programs, the attention of students is usually doubled. Therefore, the time required to study a particular material is reduced by an average of 30 %, and the acquired knowledge remains in memory for a longer time [4].

So, interactivity and engagement are the main concepts of digital materials.

That's why interactivity can be identified as the relationship established by the users with the interface to process information actively, and thus increase learners' motivation, which results in more effective learning [2, p. 164].

Educational technology allows students to be better prepared for the class, and provides teachers with attractive resources to make their classes much more sociable. It gives opportunity for all students regardless of their level to participate in the classroom activities. The use of electronic textbook also reveals the creative potential of students, which makes the learning process of foreign language interactive, entertaining and productive.

The creation of electronic textbooks effectively solves the problem of constant updating the didactic material. They include a lot of exercises and examples. Nevertheless, this digital form allows, without any problem, to add, edit and update materials, if it's necessary. After studying particular material of the course, a student can quickly check his or her knowledge of the topic at a suitable pace and form. On the other hand, a teacher gets information about the student's knowledge in real time.

As a rule, electronic textbooks also contain knowledge control tools — computer testing. Doing tests students are able to self-check the material they have learned, identify gaps in knowledge and repeat the badly learned material.

Electronic textbooks are of particular importance in organizing self-study. Independence allows the students to successfully adapt to the work, including those related to rapidly changing technologies. Thus, one of the aims of the learning process is to teach the student to work with a textbook, in particular with the electronic one. This skill is especially important for distance learning. In the process of using electronic textbooks, students have the opportunity to choose appropriate and convenient forms of learning and use additional interactivity and visibility.

Smart software can facilitate the delivery of multi-module content, provide feedback and track the progress made to students in the process of learning foreign languages. Thus, the use of modern educational technologies (among them multimedia) not only ensures the high quality of the organization of the educational process, but also provides a great opportunity to create new models and methods of education, thereby improving the quality of education, and creates all the conditions for the development of a universal human being.

But despite a great number of advantages of applying electronic textbooks in the learning process, it's important to remember that electronic textbooks are only a tool. They supplement, but not replace the teacher.

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Е. Н. Лаппо

Преимущества электронных учебников при изучении иностранных языков

Сегодня преподаватели университетов используют ряд интерактивных технологий в процессе обучения иностранным языкам, чтобы сделать практические уроки более интересными и информативными, а также повысить мотивацию студентов изучать иностранные языки.

В процессе обучения наряду с традиционными печатными изданиями широко распространены электронные учебные пособия, которые используются как для заочного и дистанционного обучения, так и для аудиторной и самостоятельной работы при очной форме обучения.

Статья посвящена актуальному на сегодняшний день вопросу использования электронных учебников в процессе обучения иностранным языкам. Внимание уделяется их возможностям и преимуществам при использовании в процессе обучения. К основным преимуществам электронных учебников относятся индивидуализация учебного процесса, использование мультимедийных технологий, формирование у учащихся навыков самообразования.

Благодаря своим интерактивным возможностям электронное учебное пособие незаменимо при обучении устной речи, состоящей из аудирования и говорения, особенно в форме диалога. Именно в этом направлении необходимо активно разрабатывать электронные учебные издания, которые позволят максимально качественно представить реальную, но искусственно созданную среду иноязычного общения для организации тренировки учебного материала.

Современные образовательные технологии позволяют учащимся лучше подготовиться к занятиям и предоставляют учителям ресурсы для того, чтобы сделать свои занятия более коммуникабельными и увлекательными. Это дает возможность всем учащимся, независимо от их уровня, активно участвовать в ходе занятий. Использование электронного учебника также раскрывает творческий потенциал учащихся, что делает процесс изучения иностранного языка интерактивным, занимательным и продуктивным.

Возможность самостоятельного выбора последовательности изучения материала и темпа работы, самоконтроль, оценка эффективности обучения повышают эффективность учебных занятий, усиливают мотивацию учащихся к изучению иностранных языков.

Несмотря на огромное число преимуществ использования электронных учебных пособий в образовательном процессе, стоит помнить, что электронные учебники — это всего лишь инструмент. Они лишь дополняют, но не заменяют учителя.